

Special and Regular Meeting of Tuesday, December 11, 2007

City Council Chambers, One Twin Pines Lane

SPECIAL MEETINGS

CLOSED SESSION - 7:05 P.M.

- A. Conference with Labor Negotiator, Jack Crist, pursuant to Government Code Section No. 54957.6: AFSCME

Attended by Councilmembers Dickenson , Feierbach, Mathewson, Lieberman, City Manager Crist, City Attorney Zafferano, Interim Human Resources Director Frisbie, Community Development Director de Melo, and Police Chief Mattei. Councilmember Warden was absent and City Clerk Cook was excused from attending.

ADJOURNMENT at this time, being 7:10 P.M.

Terri Cook

City Clerk

This meeting not tape recorded or videotaped.

REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER 7:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Lieberman, Feierbach, Warden, Mathewson, Dickenson

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: None

Staff Present: City Manager Crist, City Attorney Zafferano, Community Development Director de Melo, Police Chief Mattei, Finance Director Fil, Public Works Director Davis, Co-Interim Parks and Recreation Directors Ourtiague and Brunson, Information Services Manager Harnish, Fire Chief Fry, City Treasurer Violet, Deputy City Clerk Aguilar, City Clerk Cook.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by the Belmont Police Department Honor Guard

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Feierbach noted that there was no action taken during Closed Session.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Clerk Cook announced that Deputy City Clerk Aguilar had recently produced two brochures to assist the public with the meeting process. One brochure outlines the Council meeting process and describes some terminology, and the other is a list of commonly-used acronyms. Both of these documents will be available on the website.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

Mayor Feierbach announced that her comments as outgoing Mayor would be taken out of order from what is showing on the agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval of Minutes of Special and Regular Meeting of November 13, 2007

Approval of Resolution 9958 Declaring the Results of the Regular Municipal Election Held on November 6, 2007

Approval of Resolution 9959 Approving the Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Belmont and the Mid-Management and Confidential Employees Association

Approval of Resolution 9960 Approving the Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Belmont and AFSCME LOCAL 829, AFL-CIO

Approval of Resolution 9961 in Appreciation of Outstanding Public Service by Phil Mathewson

Approval of Resolution in 9962 Appreciation of Outstanding Public Service by Dave Warden

ACTION: On a motion by Councilmember Mathewson, seconded by Councilmember Warden, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved by a show of hands.

NEW BUSINESS

Oath of Office for City Clerk

The Oath of Office for returning City Clerk Cook was administered by the Clerk's sister, Jeannette Stillwell.

City Clerk Cook stated that she enjoyed serving in this position, looked forward to working with the new council members, and reminded the public that she is elected and is available to them at any time. She thanked the voters for returning her to her second full term as City Clerk.

Oath of Office for City Treasurer

The Oath of Office for returning City Treasurer Violet was administered by the Treasurer's daughter, Jennifer.

City Treasurer Violet thanked outgoing Council members Warden and Mathewson for their service, and stated he looked forward to working with the new Council members. He complimented the Finance Department staff, and stated he looks forward to serving the community for another four years.

Recognition of Outgoing Mayor

Councilmember Lieberman stated that Mayor Feierbach always made people feel comfortable when they came to the microphone to speak at Council meetings. She also involved people in the process, even if she did not agree with them. He presented the Mayor with a plaque.

Councilmember Warden stated that it is an understatement to say that Mayor Feierbach cares about Belmont. She is tireless, and is always there to help people.

Councilmember Mathewson stated that Mayor Feierbach is a friend. She brings truth to the Council and is a conscience for the City.

Councilmember Dickenson stated that Mayor Feierbach is a good friend and mentor who understands people.

City Manager Crist stated that being Mayor involves an enormous commitment of time, since everyone always expects the Mayor to be present at events. Mayor Feierbach always made herself available to staff, and was helpful to them throughout the year. He presented her with a Book of Belmont Mayors.

Risa Horowitz, Belmont resident, stated that a minority of people have spoken badly of Mayor Feierbach. She accompanied the Mayor when she went door-to-door to campaign for Measure F in 2005, and the Mayor was given a lot of respect during those visits. The Mayor always responds to people, and the new Mayor will have big shoes to fill.

Ron Denman, Belmont Chamber of Commerce President, stated that he appreciated the Mayor's involvement with the Chamber, and noted that she always found a way to work together.

Remarks by Outgoing Mayor

Mayor Feierbach stated that the Mayor is more than just a figurehead. People always want to meet with the Mayor, who must be a good ambassador for the City. She stated that she hopes she has been proactive. She commended the City's excellent staff. She outlined a number of accomplishments this year, including

- hiring a permanent city manager
- new fire department joint powers agreement, resulting in savings to Belmont
- Business Directory in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce

- Economic and redevelopment activities
- Solid waste franchise subcommittee
- Council and Planning Commission meetings now web-streamed
- Blue Ribbon Award for Central Elementary School
- Emmett House to be relocated in January
- Consideration of an initiative to preserve playing fields
- Infrastructure and sewer projects, resulted in cost savings
- Storm drain/sewer master plan
- Initiation of Green advisory committee
- Successful completion of three union contracts
- General Plan Update is under way
- Installation of speed humps on Monserat Avenue, other streets forthcoming
- Initiation of Red Light Camera contract
- Thanked employees for their efforts at the accident which took place earlier in the year at Ralston School
- Removed the Sports Complex from development consideration
- Initiation of the Beautify Belmont Award
- Co-sponsored Save the Music Festival
- Maintained the current sewer rates
- Re-instituted a contract with Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center
- Initiated a plan to install solar panels at the Library
- On-line registration now available for Parks and Recreation classes
- Obtained a \$500,000 grant to install a round-about at Ralston Avenue and South Road
- Upgraded the Kiosk on Alameda de las Pulgas
- Enacted a smoking ordinance
- Dedicated the first Twin Pines Park Christmas Tree

She concluded by saying that it is not easy being green, and it is not easy being Mayor.

Recognition of Outgoing Council Member Mathewson

Mayor Feierbach presented a resolution to Outgoing Councilmember Mathewson, and City Manager Crist presented a plaque.

Jerry Hill, San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, stated that Councilmember Mathewson is known throughout the County, and analyzed all issues thoroughly.

Risa Horowitz, Belmont resident, expressed her appreciation for Councilmember Mathewson's time and effort, not only as a Councilmember, but also as a Planning Commissioner before that. He has had a great impact on the City. She commended his efforts on behalf of the fire issues.

Ron Denman, Belmont Chamber of Commerce President, stated that Councilmember Mathewson is a role model for others.

Glenn Maguet, Belmont Kiwanis Club, noted that Councilmember Mathewson is a member of the Kiwanis Club, and he and other Kiwanians presented a check to the City in honor of Councilmember Mathewson.

Councilmember Warden stated that Councilmember Mathewson is a gentleman and a scholar who is very kind. It has been an honor to serve with him.

Councilmember Lieberman stated that it has been a pleasure serving with Councilmember Mathewson, and he noted especially his service on the fire board during a difficult time.

Councilmember Dickenson noted that Councilmember Mathewson was always available to discuss issues.

Mayor Feierbach stated that Councilmember Mathewson is quiet but strong. He was the one who encouraged the Council to address economic development when he was still a member of the Planning Commission. He suggested re-instituting the Key to the City as well as initiating the first lighted Christmas tree in Twin Pines Park. He brought civility to the process. He always supported land use and density issues.

City Clerk Cook thanked Councilmember Mathewson for his service. She noted that when he was the Mayor, he always asked her for feedback on a variety of issues.

Remarks of Outgoing Councilmember Mathewson

Councilmember Mathewson stated that the current Council has honorably served the City. There are always many challenges, and the Council is able to work well with others. He congratulated incoming Councilmembers Wozniak and Braunstein. He thanked his partner, Bob, for his sacrifices. He thanked staff and the commissions for their hard work. He thanked a number of individual staff members, including City Manager Crist. He stated that although he and Councilmember Warden did not always agree, they always respected each other's opinions. He urged the Council not to neglect infrastructure needs. He noted that there are a number of good proposals for economic development.

Recognition of Outgoing Council Member Warden

Mayor Feierbach presented a resolution to Outgoing Councilmember Warden, and City Manager Crist presented a plaque.

City Manager Crist noted that Councilmember Warden always made a point on tough issues. He was courageous, especially with regard to the fire issues.

Jerry Hill, San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, stated that he enjoyed working with Councilmember Warden on the County Library Board.

Lisa Warden, Councilmember Warden's wife, stated that the top ten reasons why she is proud of Councilmember Warden is that he 1) ran an honorable campaign and produced the Belmont Answer Book, 2) served for all the right reasons, 3) is decisive, principled, and stood up for the right reason, 4) fought for open space, 5) had the wisdom to step away and focus on other priorities, 6) is proud of his

work, 7) is a true and loyal friend, 8) is a wonderful son, 9) puts up with her career and supports her work with animals, and 10) has a very successful marriage.

Risa Horowitz, Belmont resident, stated that she appreciated how Councilmember Warden listened to people. She thanked him for his work on behalf of the new Library.

Ron Denman, Belmont Chamber of Commerce President, stated the City Council is the sum of all parts. He noted that one word to describe Councilmember Warden is “iconoclastic”.

Walt Shjeflo, Belmont resident, stated that 48 years ago there were no parks in Belmont and now there are several. He worked with Councilmember on the Library campaign. He commended Councilmember Warden for staying true to the fire issues, and noted that he testified during the associated trial in that matter. He noted Councilmember Warden’s support of Measure F. He was always respected. He has good vision and a good work ethic. He is a good leader. He is the best Councilmember he has ever worked with.

Councilmember Dickenson thanked Councilmember Warden for bringing City Manager Crist back to Belmont. Councilmember Warden provided mentorship.

Councilmember Lieberman stated that Councilmember Warden is tireless. He works hard and does his homework. He brought knowledge and thought through issues. He asked tough questions.

Councilmember Mathewson stated it has been a privilege to serve with Councilmember Warden. He helped focus efforts, and was a good example to follow.

Mayor Feierbach stated that she and Councilmember Warden often argued, but often agreed on issues. She cited the number of important issues that Councilmember Warden addressed during his tenure, including the hiring of the City Manager, the City Hall retrofit/remodel, the new fire authority, introduced slope density and Measure F, the Library Task Force, pygmy goats, and recommended the adoption of Jim McLaughlin’s Belmont poem as the official poem of Belmont.

City Clerk Cook stated that it had been a privilege to work with Councilmember Warden as a fellow Councilmember and since becoming City Clerk. She recalled the efforts on the Library Campaign. She thanked him for his years of service.

Comments by Outgoing Councilmember Warden

Councilmember Warden stated that eight years is a long time to serve. Things have not really changed much. Belmont is a special place. He thanked all who communicated with him over the years about issues. There are always many ideas for change, and decisions are not made in a vacuum. Belmont has an excellent staff.

Councilmembers Warden and Mathewson stepped off the dais.

Oath of Office of New Council Members

The Oath of Office for David Braunstein was administered by his parents, Jacob and Pauline Braunstein, and the Oath of Office for Christine Wozniak was administered by her husband, Richard Huff.

Councilmembers Braunstein and Wozniak took their seats at the dais.

Comments by Incoming Councilmember Braunstein

Councilmember Braunstein thanked the outgoing Councilmembers for their years of service. He congratulated fellow Councilmember Wozniak in being elected. The campaign was both exhilarating and tiring. He spoke with many who shared hopes and beliefs. People have passion for the City, and there is an expectation of elected officials to address issues. He thanked the voters for believing in his abilities. He takes this responsibility seriously, and desires to move toward vision and goals. He thanked his family for their support, and thanked those who helped with his campaign.

Comments by Incoming Councilmember Wozniak

Councilmember Wozniak thanked the outgoing Councilmembers for their years of service. She thanked those who helped in her campaign, and thanked her family for support. She is confident this City Council will work well together. They stand on the shoulders of giants. The Council needs to focus on a variety of issues. There are different ways to reach out to the community.

Council Reorganization

Mayor Feierbach nominated Councilmember Lieberman for Mayor.

ACTION: On a motion by Councilmember Feierbach, seconded by Councilmember Braunstein, Resolution 9963 Appointing Warren Lieberman as Mayor for 2008 was unanimously approved by a show of hands.

Selection of Vice-Mayor

Councilmember Wozniak nominated Councilmember Dickenson for Vice-Mayor.

ACTION: On a motion by Councilmember Wozniak, seconded by Councilmember Feierbach, Resolution 9964 Appointing Bill Dickenson as Vice-Mayor for 2008 was unanimously approved by a show of hands.

Oath of Office for New Mayor

The Oath of Office for Mayor Lieberman was administered by his wife, Gracie Lieberman.

Remarks by Incoming Mayor

Mayor Lieberman thanked those who helped with the reception that will be held immediately following tonight's meeting. He also thanked the Council for selecting him to be Mayor. He learned a great deal from former Mayors Mathewson and Feierbach about how to run a meeting. He thanked his family for their support. He would like 2008 to be the Year of the Community. He noted that the City Council has accomplished much in two years, including all the issues related to the reconstitution of the fire department and the approval of new labor contracts with the employee groups. His priorities will be parks and recreation sports, as well as economic development and the Green Committee. He sees his role as team leader. He would like to build on past results. He would like to reach out to the community by holding citizen lunches with various staff members. He looks forward to working with Vice-Mayor Dickenson.

ADJOURNMENT at this time, being 9:40 P.M.

Terri Cook

City Clerk

Council Meeting Tape Recorded and Videotaped
Audio Recording 680